



Present Perfect Simple and Continuous



Use

G4

1. We use the **Present Perfect Simple**:

- for an action which happened in the past but we don't mention when exactly.
I **have seen** this film.
- for an action which happened in the past but its results are obvious in the present.
Peter **has broken** his leg. He can't walk.
- for an action which started in the past and continues up to the present.
I **have taught** at this school since 2005.
- for an action which was completed a short time ago. In this case we usually use **just**.
I **have just finished** my homework.
- to talk about **experiences** that we have or haven't had in our life. In this case we use **ever** and **never**.
I **have never been** to London.
Have you ever met anyone famous?

2. We use **the Present Perfect Continuous**

- to emphasize the duration of the action, with **FOR** and **SINCE**.
We **have been living** here for 10 years.
They **have been learning** the guitar since May.



recently

Place: between have / has and the Past Participle or at the end of the sentence.
Sentences: affirmative, negative and interrogative.
He has recently bought a computer.

lately

Place: at the end of the sentence.
Sentences: affirmative, negative and interrogative.
I haven't seen John lately.

already

Use: It means that something happened before it was expected.
Sentences: affirmative.
Place: between have / has and the Past Participle.
I have already had lunch.

yet

Use: We use it to talk about whether something that was expected has happened or not.
Sentences: negative and interrogative.
Place: at the end of the sentence.
Have you seen him yet?
I haven't had breakfast yet.

ever

Use: We use it to ask if something has happened at any time up to the present.
Sentences: interrogative.
Place: between have / has + subject and the Past Participle.
Have you ever ridden a motorbike?

never

Use: We use it to say that something hasn't happened at any time up to the present.
Sentences: affirmative (it gives a negative meaning).
Place: between have / has and the Past Participle.
I have never travelled by boat.

just

Use: We use it to talk about something that happened a very short time ago.
Sentences: affirmative.
Place: between have / has and the Past Participle.
The ball has just broken the window.

since

Use: It refers to the time when the action started.
Sentences: affirmative and negative.
They have lived in London since 2002.

for

Use: It refers to the duration of the action.
Sentences: affirmative and negative.
I have worked in a hospital for five years.

today / this morning / this month / this year...

Use: We use these expressions when the period of time **hasn't finished** at the time of speaking.
She has written four letters this morning. (It is still morning)

Have been (to) / Have gone (to)

Have been (to) and **have gone (to)** are used as the Present Perfect of the verb go.

- We use **have been (to)** to say that someone went somewhere but has come back.
Alex has been to Paris. He came back last night.
- We use **have gone (to)** to say that someone went somewhere and is still there.
Sandra has gone to the market. She hasn't come back yet.

How long...?

We use **How long...?** with the Present Perfect to ask about the period or the length of time from the present moment back to the beginning of the action. We can answer using **for** or **since**.
How long have you known her?
I have known her since June.



Now, let's practise!!

1 Write the Past Participle of the following verbs. Remember that irregular verbs don't follow any rules!

decide	
have	
get	
open	
study	
tell	
be	
enjoy	
change	
want	
break	
need	
think	
fall	
hear	
pay	
live	
travel	
visit	
write	

2 Write questions and answers using the Present Perfect Simple, as in the example.

1. Paul and Rose / be / to / London / lately
Have Paul and Rose been to London lately?
No, they haven't. They have been to Paris.



(be to Paris)

2. The Smiths / buy / a house / this month



(buy a car)

3. Jim / cut / his finger



(break his leg)

4. They / make / the dinner/ today



(wash the dishes)

5. Harry / study / this afternoon



(use the computer)

6. Marge / go / to the hairdresser / this morning



(do the shopping)

3 Put the words in the correct tense: Present Perfect Simple or Continuous.

- I _____ (already/see) this film.
- We _____ (work) for 9 hours.
We really need to stop!
- _____ (Anna/ever/visit) New York ?
- We _____ (just/finish) doing our homework.
- Tim _____ (not work) hard lately.
- We _____ (wait) for Sophie since 5 o'clock. I think we should leave.
- My parents _____ (not leave) for London yet.
- Susan _____ (never/be) abroad.

4 Choose the correct answer.

- I have **already** / **yet** done my homework.
- Peter has known Sarah **for** / **since** they were children.
- Have they finished lunch **just** / **yet**?
- It has **just** / **ever** stopped snowing.
- The postman hasn't delivered the letters **yet** / **since**.
- Have you **never** / **ever** eaten Chinese food?
- We haven't seen Mark **lately** / **already**.
- James hasn't visited his grandparents **since** / **for** two months.
- My parents have **recently** / **yet** bought a new TV set.
- John has had his driving license **since** / **for** December.
- My mother has **lately** / **already** cleaned my room.
- I have drunk four beers **today** / **yet**.